

under customs control, both imported (exported) and transit. Customs authorities may apply measures to use navigation seals in the following cases: placing goods under the customs transit procedure; in relation to goods under customs control when such goods can be transported through the customs territory of the EAEU without being placed under the customs procedure of transit. The advantages of using navigation seals are: the reduction of vehicles in the customs control zone; less time is spent on the customs operations performance; the provision of the remote control; the reduction in risks of offenses and, in some cases, in costs.

In conclusion, I want to note that the rapid introduction and usage of the above mentioned technical means of customs control increases the efficiency of customs control at the customs border of the EAEU, reduces the time for customs control, and promptly detects illegal movements of goods. Inspection complexes are the most important components of modern checkpoints on the borders of the EAEU. Having more checkpoints with this equipment will enable customs inspections to pass a larger number of vehicles. The use of small-sized technical equipment such as a portable inspection complex, a diamond tester, an endoscope, and a metal analyzer allows a customs officer to simplify a customs control and to reduce the time of control. The implementation and modernization of technical means of customs control allows customs authorities to perform their functions efficiently, accurately, and quickly.

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«Assessment of the Shadow Sector of the Economy in terms of Financial Security»

Research Field:

A secure business environment for economic development

The concept of economic security does not have an exact scientific definition and is most often associated with understanding of economic stability and economic independence of the state, as well as compliance with its the economic interests. Modern understanding of economic security and compliance with the economic interests of the state has many facets of manifestation, namely: «the state of the economic system, which makes it possible to resolutely and effectively solve social problems and those situations in which the state has the opportunity

to develop and pursue an independent economic policy»¹ before «creating a set of conditions that protect the country's economy from external and internal threats forming the state of the country's economy that ensures protecting its vital interests, effective satisfaction of public needs at the interethnic and international levels»². Thus, understanding of the economic security of the state determines the effectiveness of the institutions of the state, the coexistence of the system and decision-making procedures to achieve the goals of economic development, providing consistency in the methods and objectives of policy.

At the same time, economic security is both the appropriate level of economic development, and the state of economic institutions, government, and society in the country, in which social needs are effectively met, the national interests of the country are protected, and even in a situation of unfavorable developments in external and internal processes, stability in society is maintained. The main normative legal documents on the basis of which the economic security of the state is based are: the Constitution of the Republic of Belarus and the Concept of National Security of the Republic of Belarus, approved by Decree of the President of the Republic of Belarus No. 575 of November 9, 2010³. The Concept of National Security of the Republic of Belarus defines that the term economic security means «the state of the economy in which the protection of the national interests of the Republic of Belarus from internal and external threats is guaranteed»⁴.

Studies of the concept of economic security of economy have gained additional relevance in the context of the introduction of sanctions, the manifestation of their consequences both in the short and long term. Examples of the existence of restrictions similar to economic sanctions lead to the formation of a shadow economy as a long-term adaptation option to restrictions in order to circumvent them.

In the domestic (former Soviet) economic science, interest in the problems of the shadow economy manifested itself in the 80s, which was due to certain social and economic reasons: the difficulties of saturation of the market with goods, the increasing role of the shadow economy in solving these problems, the growth of criminalization of the shadow economy⁵. The emergence of an approach to the shadow economy as an informal part of economic relations, hidden market

¹ Абалкин, Л.И. Экономическая безопасность России: угрозы и их отражение // Вопросы экономики. – 1994. – №12. С. 5-12.

² Богомолов, В.А. Экономическая безопасность: учеб. пособие для студентов вузов / В.А. Богомолов и др.; под ред. В.А. Богомолова. -2-е изд., перераб. и доп. — М.: ЮНИТИ-ДАНА, 2009 г. - 295с.

³ Об утверждении национальной безопасности Республики Беларусь [Электронный ресурс]. – Режим доступа: <https://www.pravo.by/document/?guid=3871&p0=P31000575>. – Дата доступа: 21.02.2022.

⁴ Об утверждении национальной безопасности РБ: Указ Президента Республики Беларусь №575 от 9 ноября 2010 года [Электронный ресурс]. – Режим доступа: <http://kgb.by/ru/ukaz575/>. – Дата доступа: 21.02.2022.

⁵ Голованов, Е.Б. Теневая экономика. Конспект лекций. – Челябинск, 2015. 61 с.

or commodity-money, is characteristic of the late period of the command and administrative existence of the economy (1980-1990). Then economic development did not lead to an increase in welfare. It was strictly regulated by the state and had limited opportunities for the production of goods and their distribution among consumers.

Studies based on macroeconomic and microeconomic modeling using data from several countries show that the main driving force determining the scale and growth rates of the shadow economy is an increase in the burden of taxes and payments for the purposes of state functioning, increased restrictions on official sales markets, including the labor market, a decrease in solvency of legal income (including those which are due to inflation)¹. These factors characterize not only the conditions for the emergence of the shadow economy, but also the institutional characteristics of national economic insecurity.

It should be noted that the approach to the shadow economy as an «informal sector of the economy», illegal employment, self-employment, has developed in developing countries as a model of survival on the verge of poverty, this is most convincingly presented in the work of Hernando de Soto «Another Way» in 1989. But the shadow economy is formed in any economy, also developed, where it is most often called «white-collar crime»; and with the development of statistical research, the excess of real economic activity over official activity became obvious (the second half of the 1970s - early 1980s). One of the first estimates of the US shadow economy, which represented a third of the official GDP, was made by E. Feig in the late 70s. It caused such a strong resonance that a special hearing of the Economic Committee of the US Congress was devoted to this issue, where attention was drawn to the inadmissibility of ignoring its scale and role. P. Gutman, who published the article «Underground Economy» in 1977, justified the need to take into account shadow economic activity, which, according to official estimates, amounted to 10-12% of GDP in economically developed countries, and up to 40-50% in other countries².

Many economists believe that the reason for the emergence of the shadow economy is a high tax burden – this opinion unites the sources of shadowization of the economy of developed and developing countries, although they have different reasons. Based on various scientific approaches, it can be concluded that economic security is the state of government institutions and the economy where some of the measures of fiscal policy are used to ensure economic

¹ Доклад МВФ о теневой экономике [Электронный ресурс]. – Режим доступа: <https://udf.by/news/economic/169155-doklad-mvf-otenevoy-ekonomike-belarus-na-tret-seraya.html>. – Дата доступа: 18.02.2022.

² Гамза, Я.В., Кунцевич, В.П., Курбанова М. Оценка масштабов теневой экономики в Республике Беларусь // East European Scientific Journal. 2020. № 10(62), part 4. P. 17-25 [Электронный ресурс]. – Режим доступа: <https://elib.bsu.by/bitstream/123456789/253725/3/Кунцевич.pdf>. – Дата доступа: 18.02.2022.

security and are related to the functioning and the need to regulate foreign trade. The foreign trade policy of the state has an impact on ensuring economic security through taxes, subsidies, export and import restrictions in accordance with national interests.

The largest share in payments for exports and imports received by all EAEU member states is belongs to payments for the export of goods and services. Since 2016, their volume has been growing, only the indicators of 2019-2020 were affected by the slowdown associated with the pandemic. Thus, payments received from the export and import of goods and services largely depend on the state of foreign policy and foreign economic relations of the countries. The pandemic was a factor ensuring the purity of the experiment, in which it is obvious that there is an inversely proportional relationship between the level of development of the country's economy and the level of customs taxation. The more stable the economy, the lower the rates of customs tariffs. Such a reduction increases the competitiveness of the country, the business activity of subjects of foreign economic activity, and the protection of the domestic market from similar products by high tariffs thus affecting both the total output and budget revenues. High rates of customs and tariff regulation, as a rule, are justified by the economic security of the country, but the price of ensuring security is a decrease in economic output.

The structure of budget revenues is determined, on the one hand, by the needs of the state for financial resources and the specifics of the economic policy being pursued, and on the other hand - by the country's ability to mobilize such resources. A significant role in replenishing the revenue side of the budgets of the EAEU member states is assigned to the system of customs payments. Despite the situation caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, which worsened the state of the economy of the member States of the Union, the countries ensure the fulfillment of strategic tasks of the state administration of foreign economic activity in these conditions and stabilize the economies of the member states of the Eurasian Economic Union. But any increase in the burden on economic entities is fraught not only with an economic slowdown, but also with the danger of shadowization of certain types of activities and incomes that are not criminal in origin, but are forced to be hidden.

The analysis of the size of the shadow economy raises the problem of its optimal sizes for a society, which are not equal to zero. The shadow economy exists in any society, and its size, among other things, depends on the state's expenses for the maintenance of regulatory authorities. One of the aspects of the study of the shadow economy also suggests that the shadow economy is growing with the rising costs of doing business and imposing harsh regulatory measures on its organization.